

10/734,821

August 27th, 2004

Reply to Office Action of 06/29/2004

Via Facsimile

Remarks

This amendment is in response to the June 29th, 2004 Office Action. Amendments to the Figs have been made at Examiner's suggestion. Applicant respectfully traverses Examiner's rejections of claims 1-20 in light of the above claim amendments and the following remarks:

Rejection of claims 1-20 under § 103(a)

The examiner rejected claims 1-20 as being unpatentable over Anderson in view of admitted prior art, as well as being unpatentable over Anderson in view of Faylor and Casolo. There is also mention of Crits. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Anderson 3,849,306 in View of admitted prior art

Anderson puts the fine bead cation bed, the best filter in the system, in the first bed. Even assuming, arguendo, that one would combine Anderson with the admitted prior art, one would put a fine mesh filter polisher in the first bed. However, applicant traverses the assertion that looking at the three, single charged, deep bed polishers of Anderson would lead one of ordinary skill in the art to substitute two of them for a mixed powdered resin polisher, and then re-arrange the order. Anderson teaches that it is important to keep the bed pure and not use mixed beds at all. See abstract.

Anderson in View of Faylor and Casolo

The above paragraph discusses why Anderson in view of admitted prior art does not anticipate the pending claims. Neither Faylor nor Casolo make up for this deficiency. In Faylor, it requires the elements of 54, 56 and 58, an anion polisher, a mixed bed polisher and a cartridge filter to produce a somewhat similar effect to applicant's use of a mixed bed powdered polisher following the cation polisher. Casolo, similarly requires many steps, where the applicant's invention requires few. One of ordinary skill in the art would combine Anderson and Faylor/Casolo to produce a complicated system, not the uncomplicated system of applicant's invention.

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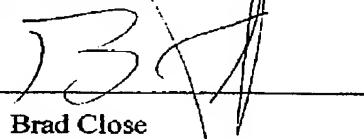
Crits 3,537,989

In regards to Crits, the mixed bed cited in this application is not the same thing as the mixed bed of the present invention. The mixed bed of Crits, as can be seen in Fig 1, has substantially layering between the anion and cation beads. This produces an anion zone at the top of the second polisher. The present invention has a substantially uniform distribution of the anion and cation powder in the powdered resin polisher. Furthermore, Crits describes an extensive regeneration process, see column 4 line 34 to column 7 line 19. One of ordinary skill in the art would not look at the "mixed" resin polisher of Crits and have any motivation to think that a powdered resin polisher with disposable resin powder could be substituted.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,
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by


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